

January 3, 2022

Sandy Creek Parents, Guardians, and Students,

If you have seen the news over the weekend, you have likely noticed that there have been and/or will be a number of changes regarding COVID-19. Please know that, like we have seen over the past couple years, things can change overnight. NYS Governor Kathy Hochul distributed COVID-19 rapid test kits to all school districts to distribute to their families. The school district received our allotment of these tests this morning.

There was some confusion about the initial purpose of these tests. It is our understanding that these tests should only be used if a Sandy Creek student is exhibiting symptoms. Parents or guardians of students enrolled at Sandy Creek will be able to pick up COVID-19 tests (2 per student) to have on hand in case a child has or develops symptoms. Due to limited quantities, parents or guardians sharing custody of a child will only receive one test kit (containing 2 tests) for the child. Please plan accordingly.

We plan to distribute these test kits to parents or guardians through the following:

- **Parent/Guardian drive-thru/pick-up located at the elementary parking lot doors:**
  - Tuesday, January 4th from 11:00 AM-2:00 PM
  - Tuesday, January 4th from 3:30 PM-6:00 PM
- **COVID-19 Home Tests – What to do if test is positive?**
  - The Oswego County DOH is working on updating their website to allow people to report positive test results. It will likely include a warning indicating that antigen tests can be false positive and a recommendation that before submitting positive test results that you get a confirmation PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) test from their physician, pharmacy, or urgent care; especially if you do not have symptoms or have not had an exposure to COVID.
- **Vaccination Clinics & Opportunities –**
  - The following is from the Oswego County DOH in case you are interested/looking for a location to get you or your child(ren) vaccinated:
    - Oswego County Health Department is offering adults (12 and up) vaccinations on Wednesdays and pediatric vaccinations on Tuesdays - [https://health.oswegocounty.com/information/2019\\_novel\\_coronavirus/covid-19\\_vaccine.php](https://health.oswegocounty.com/information/2019_novel_coronavirus/covid-19_vaccine.php)
    - ConnexCare is offering vaccinations to anyone (even if they are not a patient) at their office and have pediatric vaccination clinics next week - <https://www.connexcare.org/COVID19>
    - Other locations are also offering vaccinations such as Walgreens, Kinney Drugs, Walmart, etc. The following website allows people to type in their zip code and find the nearest location to schedule an appointment - <https://www.vaccines.gov/>
- **Stay Home When Sick and Get Tested –**
  - Please be sure to monitor yourself/your children each day.
  - Students and staff experiencing any of the following COVID-19 symptoms should stay home and be tested for COVID-19, this applies to vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals:

Fever or Chills (100° F or more)	Shortness of breath or trouble breathing
Cough	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
Loss of taste or smell	Muscle pain or body aches
Fatigue / feeling of tiredness	Headaches
Sore throat	Nasal congestion / runny nose

- If you or a family member test positive for COVID-19, ***please notify the nurses' office*** at 315-387-3445 Ext. 1503 or 1505, so that we can work with the Oswego County Health Department and plan our next steps (contact tracing, communications and/or programmatic changes).
- Also, please be reminded that if a member of your household tests positive for COVID-19, all unvaccinated household members should stay home until contacted by the health department.

Thank you very much for your continued support of our school district and programs.

Sincerely,  
 Kyle L. Faulkner  
 Superintendent